

N E W S

Golf balls contain 336 dimples.

A librocularist is some one who reads in bed

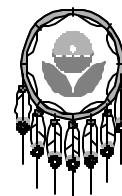
Your heart pumps blood

completely around your body

more than 1,000 times a day

L E T T E R

Region 10 Tribal Newsletter



Vol. IX No. XI

November 1, 1999

Work Shops and Conferences

November 1-5, 1999, "1999 Tribal Leaders Environmental Summit. Converging Paths: Working Together to Meet Environmental Needs" Doubletree Inn, Southcenter, WA. Discuss and hear about environmental issues that are of concern to Region 10 tribes.

Hosted by Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians and sponsored by EPA. For information call Myrna Jamison at 206/553-2931 or Nolee Olson at ATNI, 503/241-0072. Doubletree Inn phone # 206/246-8220. The Doubletree Inn is located at 16500 Southcenter Parkway, Seattle, (Tukwila) WA.

November 15-17, 1999, 15th Annual Groundwater Conference, Atlanta GA. The symposium seeks to enhance participants understanding of the risks to groundwater and how groundwater contamination can impact human and ecological health. For information : Cindy Kreifels at 800/858-4844 or for posted information: <http://www.groundwater.org>

Air Pollution

A publication that contains a variety of proven state and local programs aimed at improving air quality is available on the Internet. The Cookbook for Cleaner Air, produced by the Clean Air Act Advisory Committee, is designed to bring together the critical ingredients within local communities to launch voluntary clean air initiatives that help reduce air pollutants such as smog, particulate matter and more. To view this publication click on the following:

<http://www.epa.gov/oar/recipes>.

Tribal Indoor Air Quality

The Washington State University (WSU) - Cooperative Extension is

(IAQ) project for tribes in the northwest. This project is being supported by Region 10 EPA.

All tribes in Washington, Oregon, and Idaho will benefit from workshops, on-site technical assistance, and indoor air quality monitoring and testing equipment loan program. A tribal indoor air quality web site is being developed that will feature indoor air resources for NW tribes, a list of IAQ contacts, case studies, and an easy way to check out the equipment for loan.

Two day workshops, "Tribal IAQ Orientation", will focus on the practical, basic elements to protect health and provide comfortable, productive indoor spaces at home, offices, and school.

Workshops will be offered at the following areas: March 22-23 in Bellingham, WA, March 29-30 in Coeur d'Alene, ID or Spokane, WA, and April 5-6 at Warm Springs, OR. A series of one-day IAQ activities for schools will also be offered at locations to be announced. The workshops will be highly interactive with hands-on practice with the same equipment individuals will be able to borrow.

The program is offering 30 one-on-one technical site visits free of cost and on a first-come-first served basis. These visits will help individuals better understand the basic IAQ fundamentals, and practice the skills gained from the workshops, and incorporate "good practice" in schools,

offices, and homes. The project is purchasing a wide variety of equipment that will be readily available for tribes to borrow. The equipment will help establish a baseline for buildings in order to give a better understanding of how the buildings operate and help make practical and low-cost improvements.

WSU Energy Program will create and maintain a web site (to follow) for the NW Tribal Indoor Air Quality Project. The website will provide information you need to know concerning the workshops (i.e. dates, location, registration), on-site technical assistance visits, and an easy way to obtain IAQ equipment for loan. Additionally, there will be links to other web sites offering information and resources. It will include a forum where you can post questions to the group and share information with others in the NW concerning IAQ.

For additional information on the Tribal IAQ Program, to register for the 2-day Tribal IAQ Orientation workshops, request a School IAQ workshop, schedule an on-site technical support visit, or to receive written materials on indoor air quality contact Rich Prill, Building Science and indoor Air Quality Specialist, Washington State University - Cooperative Extension. Or you can e-mail Rich at prillr@energy.wsu.edu or phone 509/477-6701.

Henry SiJohn Memorial

The Affiliated Tribes of Northwest

Region 10 Tribal Newsletter is published monthly at no charge

To receive a copy call:

AK..Jean.....907/271-6558

ID..Arlene.....208/378-5749

OR..Don.....503/326-5015

WA..Evelyn.....206/553-4011

Tribal Office.....800/424-4372
ext. 4011

launching a two-year indoor air quality

Indians have initiated a Memorial Scholarship to honor Henry SiJohn. Henry was prominent as a tribal environmental spokesperson. If you wish to make a contribution call ATNI, Nolee Olson at 503/241-0070.

Environmental Purchasing

As part of a new environmental purchasing campaign, the National Association of Counties (NACo) is offering assistance to local governments and tribes in locating and selecting cost-effective products and services that emphasize environmental attributes. NACo is providing an environmentally preferable purchasing "starter-kit" (free to NACo members, \$10 for non-members, containing program implementation strategies, case studies, model resolutions, and a resource list; local government contacts; and information/alternative fueled vehicles, cleaners, pesticides and herbicides, office supplies, painting, printing, construction and demolition, and green buildings/energy efficiency. By purchasing environmentally preferable products or services that have a lesser or reduced effect on human health and the environment when compared with competing products or services that serve the same purpose. Local governments can save money by reducing worker health and waste disposal costs, as well as more easily meet recycling goals. For additional information you can call Tony Hayes at 202/942-4247. Or go to NACo's Website

<http://www.naco.org/programs/envir/purchase.cfm>.

Tribal Pesticide Program

EPA has awarded a cooperative agreement to the Native Ecology Initiative for the purpose of organizing the Tribal Pesticide Program Council (TPPC). The Council will support the effort of Native American Indian Tribes to establish and maintain existing pesticide programs, raise awareness of pesticide management issues among tribes, and work with EPA and other federal agencies

on national pesticide policies and programs. Issues to be addressed by the TPPC will include EPA's pesticide registration program, training and certification requirements for pesticide applicators, regulations for disposing of pesticides, and the prevention of spray drift and groundwater contamination, among other pesticide issues. Members of the TPPC will initially include representatives from 30 Tribes that actively administer various pesticide programs, and several other tribes with an interest in pesticide issues. For more information, contact Regina Langton, EPA Office of Pesticide Programs, at 703/305-7161 or langston.regina@epa.gov.

For information about ongoing activities in the Office of Pesticide Programs, visit our homepage at: <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides>, or call or write us directly at: Communication Services Branch, Office of Pesticide Programs (5606C), US Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M Street SW, Washington DC 20460

Remediation Training

Environmental Remediation Technologies (165.3) Class is being offered December 14-16, 1999 in Boise, Idaho. This introductory course provides participants with an overview of the treatment technologies most frequently used for cleanups of contaminated media. The emphasis of the course is on the technology description, applicability, and limitations of appropriate treatment technologies, rather than on the design of such systems.

The training will be held at IDEQ Conference Room, 1410 N. Hilton, Boise, Id 83706. If you would like additional information call Doug Cole or Arlene Boss at 208/378-5746. You need to register by **Nov. 15, 1999**, additional info. is available on motels in the area. Forms will be

available at the EPA/Tribal Conference.

Available Services

The Guide to USDA Programs for American Indians and Alaska Natives is an important book for tribal members and those who work with these communities. This updated reference book describes numerous programs and services available to these communities through the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

To order a free copy, contact the USDA Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations Program at 202/720-6643. You may also download a copy at: <http://www.usda.gov:80/news/pubs/indians/open.htm>.

For more about the drinking water needs among American Indian Tribes and Alaskan Native Villages, see the EPA Drinking Water Infrastructure Needs Survey: First Report to Congress. To order, call NDWC at 800/624-8301 and request item #DWBKFNO9.

You may also call the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline 800/426-4791 and request EPA 812-R-97-001 or download the document at: <http://www.epa.gov/OGWDW/docs/needs/>.

For further Tribal information, go to EPA's American Indian Environmental Office Web: <http://www.epa.gov/indian/>

Solid Waste CD-ROM

A new CD-ROM of EPA waste management publications contains the text equivalent of 10,000 pieces of paper.

A *Collection of Solid Waste Resources* features more than 150 publications, including the *Municipal Solid Waste Fact book*, an electronic reference containing national and state data on household waste management practices. Other publications cover topics of interest to the general public on both solid waste and hazardous waste.

To obtain a free copy of the CD-ROM,

call the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Hotline at 800/424-9346. Request Item #EPA530-C-98-001.

Environmental Youth Projects

If you know a student who has done their part to protect the environment or is interested in doing more, tell them about the **EPA President's Environmental Youth Awards** (PEYA) program. They may win an expense paid trip to Washington, D.C. The PEYA program, in existence for nearly 30 years, is the granddaddy of kids' environmental programs. Children from kindergarten through high school can enter as individuals or as a group. One outstanding project from each of the ten EPA Regions is honored in a national awards ceremony, subject to the availability of funds. However, all students who complete an environmental project and apply receive a signed certificate from the President of the United States.

Now is the time for students and sponsors to start thinking about what project they might enter in the 2000 PEYA program. Rules are simple: the individual or group must have completed an environmental project while in grades K through 12; the project needs at least one adult sponsor; the project has to be completed by July 31, 2000; and the application must be mailed to EPA's regional office. Regional panels judge projects on environmental need, accomplishment of goals, long-term environmental benefits, and positive impact on local communities. The panels also consider project design, coordination, implementation, innovation and soundness of approach and the students' effectiveness in presenting the projects.

More information is available on EPA's web site: www.epa.gov/enviroed or by contacting Sally Hanft, Region 10 Coordinator at 206/553-1207 or 800/424-4EPA x 1207, or e-mail: hanft.sally@epa.gov

ATSDR

The Agency for Toxic substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) is the

principal federal public health agency involved with hazardous waste issues. The agency is responsible for preventing or reducing the harmful effects of exposure to hazardous substances on human health and quality of life.

ATSDR advises the EPA, as well as other federal and state agencies, community members, and other interested parties, on the health impacts of Superfund sites. ATSDR identifies communities where people might be exposed to hazardous substances in the environment. The agency also determines how hazardous a site is and recommends actions that need to be taken to safeguard people's health. It does this by issuing public health advisories, public health assessments, and health consultations.

ATSDR also funds research conducted by universities, state agencies, and others who study the relationship between exposure to hazardous substances and disease. ATSDR OTA (Office of Tribal Affairs) has awarded cooperative agreements to the following Tribal Colleges and Universities: Dine College, Shiprock, NM, Northwest Indian College, Bellingham, WA, Turtle Mountain Community College, Belcourt, ND, and College of the Menominee Nation, Keshena, WI. The awards began on September 1. This is year one of a five year cooperative agreement. The awards are for capacity building in environmental health science, health education and/or nursing program curricula.

The agency established the tribal office to: 1) provide a central, identifiable point-of-contact for American Indian and Alaska Native governments and tribal members to have access to ATSDR and its many environmental public health programs, and; 2) to assure availability of staff sensitive and trained to work with American Indian and Alaska Native peoples, who will assist others within the agency to coordinate effectively with tribal governments and members.

The Office of Tribal Affairs staff are developing protocols and procedures for this new organization, and would appreciate any comments, ideas, and recommendations from interested parties. You can contact the office through the

ATSDR toll-free number 888/42ATSDR.

NETCSC

The National Environmental Training Center for Small Communities (NETCSC) has developed an online trainers' discussion forum for environmental trainers. This allows trainers the opportunity to ask for advice, share experiences, or help a fellow trainer, all from the convenience of a key-board and Internet Web browser.

Trainers may bring up any issues that are of concern to them. Recent discussions have included ideas on lowering the cost of training sessions, tips for improving evaluations, and understanding how to use distance learning.

Users may read messages posted by others, reply to them, ask questions, or add comments concerning environmental training.

"NETCSC developed this online forum to allow busy environmental trainers to interact with each other," said Richard Phalunas, Ed.D., NETCSC director.

"Trainers report it will be a great way to network with colleagues who share a common interest."

To access the forum visit NETCSC at: www/netc.wvu.edu

Tribal Salmon Recovery

A hand book *Protecting and Restoring Watersheds: A Tribal Approach to Salmon Recovery*, produced by the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission with funding support from EPA, is now available. This 100 page handbook explains the Columbia River treaty tribes' strategic approach to watershed restoration, including watershed assessment, watershed protection, restoration, and monitoring. Intended to help watershed councils, land owners, and other natural resource practitioners undertake restoration in ways consistent with tribal philosophy, the book draws on up-to-date science and is presented in easy-to-understand language. The handbook includes an extensive resources section with web site links, bibliographies, and helpful contacts.

It is organized around the concept that good science, good sense, and good partnerships produce good results. For a free copy, contact Jill Ory, CRITFC at 503/238-0667 or ory@critfc.org. Or, look for the handbook on the web at: www.critfc.org. (Water Talk, August 1999)

Water Technician Training

The Water Resources Technician Training Program introduces Native American trainees to the professional field of water resource development and management

Upon graduation from the course, with support from the BIA, provisions are made for the students to be employed, giving them actual experience in water resources management.

Following is a list of this years graduates: Donald F. Bacoch-Big Pine Paiute, Ace "Cante Maza" Baker-Lakota Nation, Allen J. Clubfoot, SR.-Northern Cheyenne, Mike Dixon-Susanville Indian Rancheria, Marlys M. Meyer-Swinomish Tribe, Kara St. Clair-Eastern Shoshone, Tuvita M. Shavehead-Northern Arapaho, Douglas Paul Squeochs-Yakama Nation, Frank Weaskus III-Nez Perce, Douglas Wyena-Yakama Nation. Congratulations!

Fish Consumption

A new fish consumption advisory database that contains information on whether fish caught by the public are safe to eat is now available on the Internet. The information is compiled from state and tribal advisories, and allows the public to check for local fish consumption warnings on any river, lake, or stream. In some locations, certain fish may not be safe to eat due to increased levels of contaminants such as mercury, PCBs and DDT. Click the following: <http://fish.rti.org>.

FEMA

There is a web site for FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) that will help in setting up a plan for natural disasters such as flooding, earth quake, massive mud slides, hurricane/tornado or an epidemic. The site is <http://www.fema.ov/home/emi/ishome.htm>, or you can fax them at 301/47-1201.

Solid Waste Handbook

This 76-page handbook covers solid waste management practices, regional facilities and partnerships, and compliance with new environmental and public health protection standards. It includes case studies and sample contacts.

This handbook will assist local government officials and general public in developing and negotiating contracts for solid waste programs and facilities with private companies and governmental units.

For a free copy call National Service Center for Environmental Publications at 800/490-9198 and request "EPA/220/B-92/004 Book.

MtBE

EPA is urging widespread reduction in the use of the controversial gasoline additive methyl tertiary butyl ether (MtBE), following a report issued by a panel of experts in July.

MtBE, a methanol-based additive, which has been used to replace lead as an octane enhancer since 1979, is added to gasoline throughout the U.S. to reduce carbon monoxide and ozone levels caused by auto emissions. It has been widely used since 1988.

The federal research shows that the compound causes tumors in rats and may do so in humans. A University of California study showed that the additive has been detected in at least 10,000 groundwater sites throughout California.

The panel urged a broader public education campaign about the potential environmental harm posed by gasoline when it contaminates groundwater. MtBE molecules travel unusually fast through soil and into groundwater once gasoline gets into the soil through leaks in underground tanks or spills while refueling motor vehicles, boats, and lawn mowers. In addition, MtBE tends to move quickly from the gas phase into the water phase if contaminated air comes in contact with uncontaminated water.

The EPA Office of Water placed MtBE on their drinking water Contaminant Candidate List and determined that they need more health effects research and occurrence data before deciding whether or not it should be regulated under National Primary Drinking Water Regulations.

For more about MtBE see: <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/MtBE.html>

Idaho

Tribal Elder Honored by National Education Organization: Protecting and expanding knowledge of the Nez Perce language drove Allen Slickpoo to become an authority on tribal history and culture. He has been named the 1999 Indian Elder of the Year by the National Indian Education Association.

Slickpoo has written several books, including one about Nez Perce legends and one on Nez Perce history.

Oregon

3The last week of August, Scott Sufficool, EPA Tribal Office Director, Clarence Ortman, Tribal Coordinator, and Don Creek, Tribal Liaison visited Tribes on the East side of Oregon. They met with Allen Foreman, Chairman, Council members Elwood Miller, Torina Case, and Vivian Kimbol of the Klamath Tribe; and Wanda Johnson, Chairperson, Jim St. Martin, General Manager, and Dave Evans, Natural Resources Director of the Burns Paiute Tribe. At the Warm Springs Reservation they met with the Water Control Board represented by Luke Sanders, Board Chairman and Roy Spino. Also at the meeting was Deepak Sehgal, Chris Gannon, and Ryan Smith, staff of the Water and Soil Department. Tours followed these meetings.

3The Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua & Siuslaw has submitted a TEA (Tribal Environmental Agreement) to EPA for review. This review has been completed and the final step is to set a date for the signing ceremony.

3The Confederated Tribes of Umatilla submitted their Water Quality Standards to EPA for approval on September 27th. These Standards and Implementing Provisions were adopted by the Tribe on September 1st.

3Warm Springs Sanitation & Landfill Project has been selected by the Department of Environmental Quality for a grant award. The grant award will be used to purchase a bailer to facilitate a plastic-recycling program. The proposed project will help fulfill the mission of the

grants program to encourage enhancement of local recycling programs.

Washington

3On October 22, Chuck Clarke, the Region X Administrator, and Scott Sufficool, the Region X Tribal Programs Director, signed the Tribal Environmental Agreement for the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe (Washington). The Elwha invited Aaron Scrol, a Community Dynamics of Source Water Protection Fellow, to give a presentation about his EPA/Society for Applied Anthropology (SfAA) Fellowship during Chuck and Scott's visit. Since August, Aaron has worked with the Elwha to understand the political and cultural elements that both motivate and impede the Tribe's drinking water source protection efforts. Aaron's six-month Fellowship is one of three 1999 Fellowships sponsored by PSB and SfAA to understand the community-level realities of source water protection. (Michael Kronthal 415/744-1838)